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" Mr. Dewart has been elected, as the Leader of a great Party should always be elected, in an open Convention composed of representative Delegates of all the Constituencies. He is the free choice of the Liberalism of Ontario."

—*Chatham Daily News*—July 2nd.

" The selection of Mr. Hartley Dewart, K.C., M.P.P., as the Leader of the Liberal Party in Ontario represents the matured judgment of the great mass of Liberals outside the Convention who have given serious consideration to the political situation in the Province."

—*The Statesman*—July 5th.

A Word From the New Leader

The Provincial Liberal Convention brought together a body of men and women from ninety-three Constituencies, representative of all shades of Liberal thought in every portion of the Province. It has embodied in fully-considered resolutions the policy and platform of the Liberal Party upon the main Provincial issues.

But this Convention has done more than merely pass resolutions. It has shown the dynamic power of Liberalism to accomplish what it proposes. As I said at the Convention: "There is no rift in the Liberal party. We are all one Party, standing strongly together, enunciating the principles which you have adopted, and which have brought us into the united position which we occupy to-day."

Our platform is broad enough, and just enough, and fair enough, to meet the problems of Industrial unrest and Agricultural dissatisfaction. In the large programme of social reform which has been enunciated, there is work for all men and women. The Liberal Party can and will clean up the errors of partisan administration, and give to all the people of the Province of Ontario a square deal.

The day of autocratic rule is nearing its end. We are prepared to trust the people, and to give to all the people what public opinion demands, instead of what a coterie of overholding political tenants may dictate.

The day of election cannot be long delayed. The watchword to-day must be "**Preparedness.**" Enumeration has been commenced, and will shortly be in progress throughout the whole Province. The right to vote—the ballot—is the one weapon that can and should be effectually used to bring about reform and re-establish popular Government. You must see to it in every constituency that no names are left off the list. We can afford to trust all the people. The necessity for organization was never greater than it is to-day.

H. Hartley Dewar.

Toronto, July 1st, 1919.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Provincial Liberal Convention

At a meeting of the Liberal members, held during the session of the Ontario Legislature at Toronto, on April 17th, 1919, as a result of earlier meetings and discussions, it was resolved to call a Provincial Liberal Convention, to be held at Toronto on the 25th and 26th days of June, 1919, for the following purposes:—

- (a) To formulate a general policy.
- (b) To decide upon a permanent leader for provincial affairs.
- (c) To deal with the organization of the Party for provincial purposes.
- (d) General business.

Committees were appointed to make the necessary arrangements and to draft such resolutions as might form the basis for consideration of a general policy, taking any suggestions that might be made by candidates and others who were not members of the Legislature.

It was decided that the Convention should be composed of two men and two women delegates for each seat, from each Provincial riding Association, with a corresponding number of alternates, in addition to the sitting Liberal member or Liberal candidate nominated since the 1914 election, or in the absence of such candidate, such other representative as the local association might select. The Liberal members of the House of Commons from Ontario, and the Presidents of the six District Associations recently formed, were added as delegates, and it was also decided to give representation to the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of both the Ontario and Toronto Liberal Women's Associations. Arrangements were also made for a meeting of Liberal women in Toronto on the evening of the first day of the Convention.

THE CONVENTION.

The Convention assembled in the Foresters' Hall, 22 College Street, Toronto, on Wednesday, 25th June, 1919, at 2 p.m.

A Credentials Committee was appointed, consisting of F. Wellington Hay, M.P.P., Chairman, Udney Richardson, M.P.P., and Malcolm Lang, M.P.P., who examined and passed upon the credentials of the delegates, and the names were registered according to electoral districts and badges were distributed to the delegates.

The delegates who registered and were in attendance were as follows:—

- Algoma—G. J. McArthur, Mrs. G. J. McArthur, K. S. Stover.
Brant North—Scott Davidson, M.P.P., R. W. Hamilton, Dr. T. B. Rutherford.
Brant South—Peter Noble, Chas. S. Tapscott.
Brockville—M. C. Franklin, A. M. Patterson, Mrs. G. C. Cumming, Mrs. J. W. Conklin, W. T. Rogers.
Bruce West—C. M. Bowman, M.P.P., Peter H. McKenzie, Gilbert Christie, Mrs. J. L. McKenzie, Miss H. Russell.
Bruce North—William McDonald, M.P.P., W. T. Parke, Mrs. W. T. Parke.
Bruce South—F. Rennie, R. E. Truax, M.P.
Carleton—Alex. Smith.
Cochrane—Malcolm Lang, M.P.P., J. P. McLaughlin, James Todd, Miss Bartlett, Mrs. John Craig
Dundas—J. A. Campbell, W. B. Lawson.
Durham East—W. T. R. Preston, S. Haskill, Mrs. Charles Rathe, A. McCabe.
Durham West—W. J. Bragg, F. Rickard.
Elgin East—W. Mills, N. S. Cornell, W. G. Charlton, Miss Murray, Mrs. A. S. Rogers.
Elgin West—J. L. Thompson, J. A. McLean, W. Patton.
Essex North—S. Ducharme, M.P.P., H. Charron, Miss Chevalier, Mrs. Ducharme.
Essex South—N. B. Buckland, L. P. Wible, M.P.P., J. D. Fraser, Mrs. W. H. Neville, Mrs. Wesley Link.
Fort William—J. G. Ramsden, F. Denton, L. H. Irving, Mrs. Denton.
Grenville—J. D. Wylie, John Ferguson.
Grey North—W. H. Wright.
Grey Centre—Mrs. C. W. Hartman, Mrs. Walter Buchanan, J. E. Foster, R. D. Carruthers.
Grey South—Chas. Ramage.
Haldimand—J. Kohler, W. G. Clark.
Halton—E. H. Cleaver, D. S. Robertson, William J. Stuart, Mrs. D. S. Robertson, Mrs. O'Gorham.

Hamilton East—J. M. Eastwood, Dr. R. Bruce Bent, Mrs. H. G. Arnott, Mrs. Lyman Lee.
 Hamilton West—J. A. McIntosh, Miss A. M. Edgar, Mrs. W. M. McClement, P. J. Galvin, J. M. Telford.
 Hastings North—W. Cross, W. R. Mather.
 Hastings West—J. O. Herity.
 Huron Centre—William Proudfoot, K.C., M.P.P., J. N. Grieve, Leslie Kerr, Mrs. James Hamilton, Mrs. Peter Scott.
 Huron North—W. H. Fraser, M.P.P., Sheldon Bricker, H. B. Elliott, Mrs. S. A. Popplestone, Mrs. W. H. Ferguson.
 Huron South—Mrs. T. J. Berry, J. Preeter, J. Essery, Mrs. J. Essery, John Morgan.
 Kent East—A. McLaren, John Coutts, Mrs. H. B. Bentley, Mrs. Mead, A. B. McCoig, M.P., E. G. Odette.
 Kent West—R. L. Brackin, Jim Miller, James Harrington, Mrs. W. C. Lamarche, Mrs. Harriett Mitton.
 Lambton East—D. J. McEachern, R. E. McPhedran, Frank Clifford, Mrs. Walter Annett, Miss Rawlings.
 Lambton West—John Cowan, K.C., Chester Belton, John A. McBain.
 Leeds—Mrs. M. J. Connolly, Edward Bowser, M. J. Freeman, Mrs. George E. Darling.
 Lennox—Carleton Woods.
 Lincoln—J. S. Davis, T. Marshall, M.P.P., Camby Wismer, Mrs. Curtis Haynes.
 London—J. S. Brown, Donald Soper, Mrs. E. Reid, Mrs. Dan Regan.
 Manitoulin—Dr. Carruthers.
 Middlesex North—J. Grieve, M.P.P.
 Middlesex East—Angus McLeish, John Mogan.
 Middlesex West—J. C. Elliott, M.P.P., George Innes, Silas Hyatt, Mrs. John A. Campbell, Mrs. W. Stuart.
 Muskoka—P. J. McNally, John Calderwood.
 Niagara Falls—D. B. White, J. T. James, J. G. Morningstar, Mrs. H. M. King.
 Nipissing—George A. McGaughey, D. A. Mooney, Mrs. George Souter, Mrs. A. J. Young, Dr. W. C. Wickett.
 Norfolk North—J. W. Blayney, Lt.-Col. T. R. Atkinson, M.P.P., George Henry, Mrs. G. B. Hellerman.
 Ontario North—Peter Clark, W. S. Ormiston, Miss Gould, Mrs. G. Lapp.
 Ontario South—W. E. N. Sinclair, Moses Doolittle, Mrs. G. M. Forsythe, A. W. M. Campbell, Mrs. S. Farmer.

Ottawa East—J. A. Pinard, M.P.P., E. A. Prevost, Wm. Arnold, Madam Marchand, Mrs. Beulah Devlin Grace.

Ottawa West—G. C. Hurdman, M.P.P., E. A. Larmonth, E. J. Daly, Mrs. T. McViety, Mrs. H. Sunderland.

Oxford North—George Campbell, John Calder, M.P.P., G. F. Mahon.

Oxford South—W. C. Brown.

Parry Sound—John Dwyer, N. C. Hocken.

Peel—W. J. Lowe, M.P.P., A. Rae, Mrs. James Martin, Mrs. D. Hall, A. H. Milner.

Perth North—F. W. Hay, M.P.P., Dr. Foster, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. R. J. Esson, Henry Hemsworth.

Perth South—L. W. F. Turner, Mrs. Dr. Smith.

Peterboro West—G. A. Gillespie, M.P.P., Joseph Wearing, Wm. Telford.

Peterboro East—Dr. Munro, W. A. Richardson.

Prescott—Gustave Evanturel, M.P.P., Edmond Proulx, M.P.

Prince Edward—John Whattem, Mrs. Talcott, Nelson Parliament, M.P.P.

Rainy River—K. C. Grimshaw, Mrs. McGregor, Mrs. K. C. Grimshaw, J. D. O'Neil.

Renfrew North—J. M. Munro, Dr. McKay, T. H. Moffatt.

Renfrew South—A. E. Bradwin, J. J. Carter.

Russell—Damase Racine, M.P.P., Cyprian St. Onge.

St. Catharines—J. M. Mussen, Thomas Nihan, Mrs. M. McKay.

Simcoe Centre—H. E. Jory, Donald Ross.

Stormont—John McInnes, James W. McLeod.

Sturgeon Falls—Z. Mageau, M.P.P., Theo Legault, Miss Elliane Levesque, Mrs. Mageau, George Levesque.

Sudbury—L. O'Connor, H. R. Arthur, M.D., Dr. R. A. Arthur.

Timiskaming—A. W. Roebuck, D. Walkinshaw, A. G. Slaght.

Toronto Northeast, Seats "A" and "B"—A. J. Young, Fred Hogg, M. J. O'Leary, Mrs. P. G. Kiely, Mrs. A. A. Mulholland, Mrs. D. A. Rose, Mrs. Cascadden, Edward Britnell, Dr. J. E. Elliott, E. R. Dewart.

Toronto Southeast, Seats "A" and "B"—J. C. Allen, Dr. St. Charles, Dr. Cascadden, S. Goldenburg, Miss Frawley, Mrs. Dr. Sneath, Dr. Murray, Mrs. John Lewis, R. T. Harding.

Toronto Southwest, Seats "A" and "B"—H. H. Dewart, K.C., M.P.P., James E. Day, K.C., Dr. J. H. McConnell, Joseph Singer,

John A. Harkins, Mrs. F. Stevens, Mrs. (Dr.) Ewart Wilson, Mrs. M. Morrison, Mrs. F. Smith, Thomas Shipway.

Toronto Northwest, Seats "A" and "B"—Harry Winberg, John O'Leary, R. A. Reesor, Dr. Farrell, J. G. Cane, S. Wicks, Mrs. J. Wesley Bundy.

Parkdale—C. E. Bachly, J. H. Wilkinson, Mrs. Johnson.

Riverdale—Peter Shea, J. Jackson, J. P. Berney, Mrs. Peter Shea, Mrs. A. J. O'Brien.

Victoria South—N. Smale, Albert Davidson.

Waterloo North—Josiah Stauffer, Dr. J. F. Honsberger, Dr. W. L. Hilliard.

Waterloo South—Dr. Adam Thomson, John A. McIrvine, Mrs. Archibald McPherson, A. F. Thomson, Mrs. John Taylor, Jr.

Welland—R. Cooper, J. F. Gross, D. McGregor.

Wellington East—Udney Richardson, M.P.P., David Rae, Jas. Kirkwood, Miss Aileen Noonan, Mrs. D. McGregor.

Wellington South—Thomas Mahon, R. L. McKinnon, J. W. Oakes.

Wellington West—James McEwing, J. R. Scott, Mrs. H. J. Colwell.

Wentworth North—A. C. Caldwell, R. A. Thompson.

Wentworth South—Dr. B. E. Thompson.

Windsor—J. C. Tolmie, M.P.P., Mrs. T. J. White, Mrs. J. W. Peddie, Mr. Ferris, Major J. F. Smythe.

North York—Miss Libbie Leek, Miss Pearl Millard, J. M. Walton, W. H. Johnson, Eugene Rowan.

East York—Alex. D. Bruce, W. L. Cuttell, J. H. Ratcliffe, Miss Trench, Mrs. E. R. Dewart.

West York—Major J. E. L. Streight, J. G. Culnan, Mrs. C. Coxhead, Miss Alice McNair.

District Associations

H. H. Horsey, President, Eastern Ontario District Association.
Geo. S. Gibbons, President Western Ontario District Association.

W. E. N. Sinclair, President, Central Ontario District Association.

H. D. Ramsden, President, Toronto and York District Association.

Geo. A. McGaughey, President, Northern Ontario District Association.

J. P. Moneey, President, Northwestern Ontario District Association.

Toronto Women's Liberal Association

Mrs. J. Wesley Bundy (President), Mrs. Adam Ballantyne (Past President), Mrs. P. G. Kiely (Vice-President), Mrs. Sneath (Vice-President), Mrs. Hartley Dewart (Vice-President).

Ontario Women's Liberal Association

Mrs. J. A. Macdonald (Vice-President).

The Convention was opened with an address of welcome by Mr. G. C. Hurdman, M.P.P., of Ottawa, Chairman of the Convention Committee, who called for the election of the Convention chairman. Mr. C. M. Bowman, M.P.P., was unanimously chosen to preside, and Mr. W. H. Adams as Convention Secretary.

After a brief address by the Chairman, the Secretary read the call for the meeting.

After considerable discussion as to the order of business, it was decided that matters of policy should be first settled, and that the choice of a permanent provincial leader should be made later. A resolution was then carried to the effect that the election of the leader be the first order of business on the second day of the Convention at 11 a.m.

The Chairman explained to the Convention the work that had been done by the Convention Committee and by the Members' Policy Committee, and called for nominations for a Committee on Resolutions, the names of which appear on the back of the cover. This Committee retired and appointed ten sub-committees, which dealt with all resolutions that were suggested or submitted.

While these Committees were proceeding with their work, Mr. Thomas Marshall, M.P.P. (Lincoln) introduced an interesting discussion upon the question of the Educational system of Ontario, in which a number took part, and the discussion was adjourned pending the introduction of a resolution on the subject.

The session closed at 5.30 p.m., to resume at 9 a.m. the following day. Through the much appreciated courtesy of the President and officers of the Toronto Women's Liberal Association, tea and refreshments were served, and an opportunity given to the delegates to get acquainted and exchange views.

RESOLUTIONS.

The Convention resumed its sitting at 9.45 a.m. Thursday, June 26th.

The following resolutions formulating a general policy in

provincial affairs were introduced, and after being moved, seconded, and discussed, were adopted:—

Temperance.

Moved by Wm. Proudfoot, M.P.P., seconded by Mrs. J. Wesley Bundy—

Whereas the people of the Province of Ontario by referendum vote will decide the question of Provincial prohibition;

And whereas after the referendum vote is taken it will be necessary to see that proper legislation is provided and the will of the people is carried out;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Liberal party of the Province of Ontario, in convention assembled, affirms its attitude in favor of progressive temperance legislation to the fullest extent of the Provincial jurisdiction, and pledges itself to take all necessary steps to vigorously and effectively carry into effect the will of the majority of the people as expressed by the said referendum vote.

Public Ownership.

Moved by F. Wellington Hay, M.P.P., seconded by Alderman J. G. Ramsden—

This convention desires to place on record its belief that the interests of the people of Ontario will be advanced materially, and the public welfare safeguarded by steadfast resistance to any further encroachment of private franchise-holding corporations upon the public domain or the highways of the Province. Believing as we do that much evil has been done by the alienation of public property to private ends, we pledge the Liberals of Ontario to the following measures:

1. The reservation of all water powers within the jurisdiction of the Government of Ontario for development so that the benefits of cheap and abundant electric energy may be extended to all parts of the Province;
2. The construction of a system of Hydro-Radial Railways throughout the Province wherever conditions warrant expectation of successful operation. In the construction of these railways there should be co-operation with the directors of the National Railways so that duplication of service shall be avoided and the Dominion and Provincial authorities may work together for the development of Province-wide systems of transportation.
3. The elimination of private monopoly of the telephone service in the chief centres of population and over wide areas of rural Ontario, and the creation ultimately of a Provincial telephone service.

4. Refusal to confer franchises hereafter upon private corporations for railway power, lighting, heating, telephone or other services requiring for their successful operation the use of the highways, or which come into competition with similar services owned and operated by public authorities.

High Cost of Living.

Moved by Mrs. P. G. Kiely, Toronto, seconded by Miss Catherine Frawley, Toronto—

That having regard to the present high cost of living, and the increasing burden upon the working classes and those in receipt of limited incomes, due to the high cost of the necessities of life, this convention condemns the Ontario Government for its failure to deal with this matter and its abandonment of the investigation and prosecution of the illegal combines formed to limit competition and to enhance prices.

We declare for the Government control and regulation of cold storage plants, abattoirs and stock yards, the prosecution of the old combines—the thorough investigation of the combines and profiteers which have during the period of the war and are still making unfair and illegal profits at the expense of the consumer.

Returned Soldiers and Seilors.

Moved by Major J. C. Tolmie, M.P.P., seconded by J. L. Thompson, St. Thomas—

Whereas the present security of Canada is due to the incomparable courage and achievement of our soldiers in the great war;

And whereas it is incumbent upon this country to properly provide for those who have returned wounded from the war, and the dependents of those who have been killed;

And whereas in many instances our returned heroes would elect to settle upon land in Old Ontario in preference to the isolation of New Ontario;

And whereas it is due to returned soldiers that every assistance be rendered them in securing employment upon demobilization;

Be it resolved that this convention advocates:

- (a) Adequate pensions for the wounded and for the dependents of soldiers and sailors who have been killed.
- (b) Equal pension for equal disability. Minimum pension being \$10 per month.
- (c) Insurance for the enfeebled.
- (d) Provision for settlement of soldiers on land in Old Ontario when desired.

- (e) That we direct every energy towards vocational training and practical assistance to re-establish in civil life all our returned soldiers and sailors.
- (f) In appointments to the civil service preference should be given to returned men.

Re-establishment of Soldiers and Sailors.

Moved by Major J. C. Tolmie, M.P.P., seconded by J. L. Thompson—

Whereas it is desirable to assist in the resettling and re-establishment of those men who served their country in the recent war;

And whereas the most practical assistance that can be rendered these men is the placing within their reach sufficient capital to go into business for themselves;

And whereas as a part of the general policy of the Liberal party of Ontario in connection with the development of New Ontario it is necessary to clear the land suitable for farming of the existing timber and at the same time to conserve and utilize the timber;

And whereas it would be both practicable and possible for the Government to have the said land cleared of timber to be utilized as pulp wood, and to employ returned men for the work, paying them therefor a sufficient sum of money that at the end of periods of one, two or three years, each man would have a capital laid by large enough to enable him to start in business independently;

And whereas the moneys resulting from the sale of the pulp wood so acquired would enable the Government to pay the men liberally and at the same time produce large revenue for the further development of the country:

Therefore, be it resolved that this convention adopts as the policy of the Liberal party of Ontario;

1. To begin at once the clearing of timber off suitable farming land in New Ontario.
2. The employment for this work and all other incidental work of only those men who have served their country overseas in the recent war.
3. To open roads, narrow gauge railways, settle communities, open schools, etc., all on the basis of the above system of employment.
4. To encourage men when they have completed their service of one, two or three years under the Government system to settle in the country so reclaimed and engage either in trade, manufacture or farming.

Social and Moral Reform and Pensions for Widows.

Moved by Mrs. Taylor McVeity, Ottawa, seconded by Mrs. H. M. King, Niagara Falls—

Whereas it is in the interests of the State that, upon the death of a male parent, every surviving child shall receive the care of its mother (if living) until the child reaches at least adolescence;

And whereas it is impossible for a widowed mother to earn sustenance for herself and children and at the same time discharge her duties as a parent;

And whereas, in certain cases, women are left destitute with dependent children, but with like obligations;

And whereas, in other cases, the wives of incarcerated persons are left with dependent children without means of support;

Therefore be it resolved that the Liberal party of the Province of Ontario, in convention assembled, adopts the following policy:

1. The granting by the Government of Ontario to a widow with dependent children, ordinarily resident in Ontario, of a pension from the public funds, sufficient to ensure that such widow will not be compelled to neglect her children and leave the home in order to gain a livelihood;
2. That unfortunate and destitute women with dependent children be similarly assisted under Government supervision;
3. That where a man is sent to prison it is the duty of the State to allow him a certain wage for his work, and that such wage be paid over by the State to the wife of such incarcerated person for her maintenance and that of any dependent children.
4. That steps should be taken of an effective nature to prevent the mortality which exists amongst infants and that more care and attention should be given to the feeble-minded.
5. The law amended so as to prevent men and women afflicted with hereditary diseases from marrying and propagating children.

Non-Partisan Election Laws.

Moved by S. Ducharme, M.P.P., seconded by H. Charron, Essex North—

That, whereas the Liberal party has always stood for the franchise and the right to exercise it free from partisan interference, we condemn the provision of the Ontario Election Act amendments whereby partisan enumerators are appointed to prepare

Provincial voters' lists at large and unnecessary expense. We propose the repeal of this law, and the enactment of such provisions as will provide for the preparation by the municipal authorities in all organized districts, of the Ontario voters' lists, which shall include the names of all women and men entitled to vote at the elections to the Legislative Assembly, and the appointments of the enumerators in unorganized districts by the district judges.

Agriculture.

Moved by Nelson Parliament, M.P.P., seconded by J. A. Calder, M.P.P.—

Recognizing the important position occupied by the agricultural industry, and the difficulties which confront it, be it resolved:

1. A system of rural credits be established to provide long-term money at a low rate of interest.
2. That agricultural schools with demonstration farms be established to continue the education of rural and urban boys and girls after leaving the public school.
3. That the spirit of co-operation between producer and consumer be encouraged with a view to cheapening the cost of production as well as that of distribution.

Highways.

Moved by J. C. Elliott, M.P.P., seconded by W. J. Lowe, M.P.P.—

Whereas automobile traffic has revolutionized the requirements of the Province of Ontario in the matter of highways;

And whereas the tractor and auto-truck are now important factors in the production and transportation of farm produce;

Therefore be it resolved that this convention stands for the immediate and vigorous prosecution of the County Roads system with increased grants for construction and maintenance, so as to remove as far as possible the present unfair burden from the rural municipalities;

And this convention is in favor of Provincial grants towards the construction and maintenance of township roads;

And further, that Provincial highways construction should not be gone on with until the route, quality and kind of road to be built, with plans and specifications showing the estimated cost thereof, are submitted to and passed on by the Legislature.

Northern Ontario.

Moved by Z. Mageau, M.P.P., seconded by Mrs. Geo. Souter, North Bay—

We condemn the wasteful and extravagant manner in which the millions of dollars designed to open up Northern Ontario are being spent, the miles of roads built where there is no settlement, and the neglect of sections where actual settlement is going on. We condemn the system of the expenditure on colonization roads, bridges and drainage in organized municipalities by political favorites for partisan advantage, and say that money which is voted from session to session for roads and bridges in organized municipalities should be handed over to the elected officers of the municipality instead of being expended under the patronage of the local member or defeated candidate as is the present method.

We recognize the fact that Northern Ontario possesses vast acres of fertile land still awaiting settlement. Thousands of millions of feet of the best white and red pine in the world, millions of cords of wood suitable for the manufacture of paper, and vast acres of undeveloped and unprospected mineral lands. That this section of our province is capable of immense development, and if this development is carried on under honest and capable administration, Northern Ontario can maintain a population more than equal to Southern Ontario.

We recognize also that large sums of money are yearly being collected from the resources of the North and only a comparatively small portion is being returned to develop its resources. We believe in and pledge ourselves to an aggressive policy of development and expansion, a strong propaganda of settlement by the very best class of immigrants, and the return to Northern Ontario for its opening up of a much larger proportion of the moneys collected than is now being spent thereon.

We believe in and pledge ourselves to the development of the water powers of Northern Ontario, to keep pace with the power requirements of that section of the Province, and to amend the Hydro-Electric Power Act to permit of the development of water powers in unorganized areas by the province without municipal guarantees, and where the development of the country warrants it, a system of hydro radials should be provided.

That a chain of fish hatcheries be constructed on the inland lakes of Northern Ontario of sufficient capacity to maintain a permanent supply of fish in all the lakes that are thrown open for commercial fishing in Northern Ontario, as the policy pursued

by the Government at present will soon deplete the supply of fish in these lakes.

That the great mining industry of Northern Ontario—iron, nickel, copper, silver and gold, must be encouraged in every possible way consistent with the return to the province of a fair proportion of the values. That assistance be given to mines operated up in remote districts by providing adequate transportation facilities and under proper regulation towards the testing of new areas by diamond drilling.

To encourage prospecting by the individual prospector, and lighten the burden now carried by him in proving up his discoveries and help him to retain a fair proportion of the wealth discovered by his energy and perseverance.

To deal with the nickel industry in such a manner as will best conserve the product to the Province and the Empire, and prevent a recurrence of the unfortunate circumstances that stained the fair name of Ontario and Canada during the first years of the war.

To make such regulations that when a mine is proved up and produces profit to its possessor a graded tax consistent with the value of the output and the profit realized be reserved for the Province, and generally primarily encourage and make easy the opening of properties which, when successful, will repay to the Province in taxes a larger percentage of profit than is now secured.

Reforestation.

Moved by T. R. Atkinson, M.P.P., seconded by Udney Richardson, M.P.P.

Whereas the conservation of our timber resources is of vital importance to the future prosperity of Canada;

And whereas consumption has been, up to the present, taking place at a terrific rate;

Therefore be it resolved that the Liberal party in the Province of Ontario stands for a sane policy of reforestation;

That we view with alarm the gradual extinction of our white pine and spruce forests without any serious attempt to reforest the cut-over areas and thus ensure a continuous supply of timber for the people of the Province of Ontario.

We condemn this system as extravagant and wasteful, and we pledge ourselves to the proper conservation of our timber resources and a proper system of reforestation under expert guidance. This system of reforestation we would also apply to the waste lands and abandoned areas of the Province not fit for farming.

Education.

Moved by Thomas Marshall, M.P.P., seconded by William McDonald, M.P.P.—

Whereas, in the opinion of this convention, a new era has commenced with the close of the great war, and education should rank first in the materials for reconstruction;

And whereas a more progressive and adequate educational policy is urgently needed;

Be it resolved that the Liberal Party in the Province of Ontario, in convention assembled, commits itself to a vigorous and progressive policy to meet modern conditions.

1. That the time has come for a radical change in our whole school system.
2. That simplicity and efficiency in all our courses of studies, which has long disappeared from our school curriculum, should now be restored by the abolition of all non-essentials to a practical education.
3. The greatest possible reduction in the burden in homework and the abolition of public written examinations should be undertaken at the earliest practicable period.
4. A much larger proportion of teachers' salaries be paid directly by the Province, and a more adequate pension allotment be provided for.
5. That full provision should be made for the adequate teaching of agriculture at convenient local centres.
6. That the power of issuing commands dealing with the school curriculum and our educational system generally, and of arbitrarily changing the same to suit the passing whim of some government official be taken from the Department of Education. All power to alter in any way the practice or the theory of educational work in this Province be placed where it belongs—in the hands of the Provincial Legislature.

Provincial Industrial Council.

Moved by C. M. Bowman, M.P.P., seconded by Mrs. F. Stevens, Toronto—

That labor questions are of paramount importance in these times of industrial unrest and world upheaval, particularly matters relating to the maximum hours of the labor day, insurance against sickness and unemployment, old age pensions, and the harmonizing of the interests of employer and employed.

Therefore be it resolved that this convention places itself on record as favoring the passage of legislation to give effect to such proposals, and, generally, by means of a Labor Department, to

keep in touch with the labor situation with a view to avoiding disputes between employers and employed.

And further, that the Government create a Provincial Industrial Council consisting of an equal number of employees and employers, men and women, together with a chairman appointed by the Government, to consider and report on the causes of the present unrest and the steps necessary to safeguard and promote the best interests of employees, employers and State, and especially to consider:

- (1) Questions relating to hours, wages, and general conditions of employment;
- (2) Unemployment and its prevention;
- (3) The best methods of promoting co-operation between capital and labor;

and that the Government shall undertake to give legislative consideration and effect to the findings of such Provincial Industrial (Advisory) Council.

Advanced Labor Policy.

Moved by A. W. Roebuck, Toronto, seconded by R. L. Brackin, Chatham—

Recognizing the necessity for immediate labor legislation of a practical character, this convention resolves as follows:

A general minimum wage for both men and women to apply generally to all industry throughout the Province.

The appointment of a permanent commission to inquire continuously into the cost of living in various localities and from time to time, with power to increase the minimum wage to such a rate as will, under all conditions, provide a respectable living to all wage-earners.

A law fixing the eight-hour day for all industrial occupations, throughout the Province, as applied to both men and women.

Better inspection of factories and other industries where men or women are employed, particularly with a view to the protection of women, and a more rigid enforcement of child labor regulations.

A law prohibiting employers from compelling their employees to enter into agreements not to enter into labor unions, and a recognition of the principle of collective bargaining.

Insurance against sickness and unemployment, based on the principles of English law.

Abolition of imprisonment for debt; the increase of the exemption of married men's wages from attachment from \$25.00 to \$40.00; the revision of the list of articles exempt from seizure for debt, so as to leave the actual necessities of home life.

And generally in dealing with protection of men and women, and the improvement of social conditions, the committee recommending the following:—"Mothers' pensions to be administered by the Department of Labor, with power to provide medical attendance and necessities whenever required for the proper birth and up-bringing of children."

The amendment of the Dower Act so as to ensure to a married woman a fair and adequate share of her husband's estate which he cannot will away from her.

Patronage.

Moved by H. H. Dewart, M.P.P., seconded by Wm. Proudfoot, M.P.P.—

That in the opinion of this convention the patronage system is inimical to the highest efficiency of the public service, and to the best interests of the country; that the public interests demand:

1. The creation of a non-partisan Civil Service Commission with ample powers, and that all appointments and promotions in the public service should be by merit.
2. That all supplies for the public service should be purchased on a business basis, regardless of the political or personal affiliations of the vendors, and the purchase should be by tender in open competition, after due public notice, unless local conditions at any time render this impossible.

Proportional Representation.

Moved by William Proudfoot, M.P.P., seconded by A. D. Bruce, Unionville—

That in the opinion of this convention, the present system of election of representatives to our elective bodies is unrepresentative and undemocratic;

Its defects are three-fold:—(1) often a gross exaggeration of the strength of the victorious parties; (2) sometimes a complete disfranchisement of the minority; (3) at other times a failure of a majority of citizens to obtain their due share of representation;

Therefore be it resolved that the Liberal party in the Province of Ontario, in convention assembled, favors the placing of a law upon the Statute books providing that the election of members to the Legislature and municipal councils shall be by a form of Preferential Voting, which will result in proportional representation.

Preferential Voting.

Moved by Wm. Proudfoot, M.P.P., seconded by A. Bruce—

That the Liberal party in the Province of Ontario, in convention assembled, favors the placing of a law upon the Statute book providing that the election of members to the Legislature and Municipal Councils shall be by a form of preferential voting, which will result in proportional representation.

Taxation.

Moved by William Proudfoot, M.P.P., seconded by Thos. Marshall, M.P.P.—

That in view of the fact that the present system of levying taxes upon improvements entails a Lordship upon progressive citizens who are improving their property, and thereby benefiting the community, and at the same time encourages the holding of land idle for speculative purposes;

Be it resolved that the convention favors local option for municipalities to assess and tax improvements, including buildings, business and income, on a lower basis than land, and that the Liberal principle of raising as much as possible of the Provincial revenues by the taxation of natural resources be hereby affirmed.

The following two resolutions dealing more particularly with Federal matters were introduced and carried:—

Moved by Mrs. Beulah Devlin Grace, Ottawa East, seconded by Mrs. Peter Scott, Centre Huron—

Resolved that the Liberals pledge themselves to support the efforts of the consumers' leagues throughout the Province which Dr. McFaul, the Food Commissioner of Canada, says are necessary to have the Dominion Government give the people a hearing in connection with the high cost of living. He says we have grocers' leagues and millers' leagues, and the Government will not bother with the people unless they are united in such a league.

Moved by Mrs. Helen W. Bentley, East Kent, seconded by Mrs. Walter Buchanan Centre Grey—

That the Liberals of Ontario, in convention assembled, hereby affirm the conviction that the British North America Act

should be amended so as to provide for the abolition of the Senate.

At 11.45 a.m. nominations were called for Provincial Leader, and the following were nominated:—Wm. Proudfoot, M.P.P., H. Hartley Dewart, M.P.P., J. C. Elliott, M.P.P., Major C. Tolmie, M.P.P., C. M. Bowman, M.P.P., W. G. Charlton, A. J. Young, Thos. McMillan, and W. T. R. Preston.

Each candidate proposed was allowed five minutes to address the convention. The following announced their withdrawal:—C. M. Bowman, M.P.P., W. G. Charlton, A. J. Young, and W. T. R. Preston; leaving the following to be balloted for:—Wm. Proudfoot, M.P.P., H. H. Dewart, M.P.P., J. C. Elliott, M.P.P., Major J. C. Tolmie, M.P.P., and Thos. McMillan.

The Chairman appointed the following scrutineers:—Mr. Alex. D. Bruce, Chairman, J. C. Allen, Sheldon Bricker, R. L. Brackin, J. A. Campbell, G. A. McGaughey, Mrs. P. G. Kiely, and Mrs. Beulah Devlin Grace.

It was decided that the delegates should be called according to constituencies as registered, and that each delegate called should come to the platform and receive a ballot paper from the Credentials Committee. The Secretary then called the roll of delegates, and the ballots were distributed.

Upon the second ballot the Chairman announced that Mr. H. H. Dewart, M.P.P., had secured a majority of all the ballots cast, and declared him elected as Provincial Liberal Leader. Upon motion of Mr. J. C. Elliott, M.P.P., seconded by Major J. C. Tolmie, M.P.P., the election was made unanimous by a standing vote, and in a short address, Mr. Dewart accepted the leadership and thanked the Convention for the trust that they had reposed in him. He promised to do what he could, with the assistance of the Liberals in the Province, to secure the ascendancy of Liberal principles. He expressed the hope that the men and women would all work together in the coming campaign to carry out the policy laid down, and then the Liberal party would occupy the responsible position to which it was entitled. He urged the necessity of immediate and thorough organization, and assured them that in every way he possibly could he would assist them in this work, and in the coming fight.

Address by Mr. D. D. McKenzie, M.P.

While the ballots were being counted Mr. D. D. McKenzie, M.P., Leader of the Federal Opposition, who had been specially invited to the Convention, addressed the delegates, and was the recipient of an enthusiastic reception upon rising and throughout his address.

Mr. McKenzie expressed his appreciation at being present to address for the first time a Liberal Convention in the city of Toronto, and to address full-fledged women delegates. The course of action for the party had been laid down for so many years by such distinguished leaders that it only requires any leader to follow along those lines in the best interests of the people generally. His recollection of years ago was that Ontario had been the fountain head of Liberalism. It had had great men at the head of affairs, and it would continue to have them. Courage, conviction, tenacity and progressiveness were needed.

"If this country of ours is to be the great country that it is destined to be, if our hundreds of thousands of acres and square miles of territory are to be inhabited by good citizens and progressive people, that will bring us up in line with our neighbors, it will be inhabited by free citizens, who shall have a free us of the franchise to express their opinion at the polls," said the speaker. People had been invited to come and settle in this country. They were told that if they became British subjects and obeyed the laws they would be entitled to its privileges.

"We have a Government which ignored all the promises made to those people and for mere party purposes, and for the purpose of strangling the voice of hundreds of thousands of people because they thought those people would not vote for Toryism. It is one of the cardinal principles of Liberalism that a promise once made is a promise to be performed, particularly when it is vouched for by an act of Parliament. We say the franchise was improperly taken from those people and that it should be restored to them," Mr. McKenzie said.

The Dominion Liberal Leader said he believed that anyone chosen for the Ontario Leadership would do justice to the position. He hoped that unity, harmony and good-will would prevail among Liberals after the selection was made, and that "we shall fall in behind that Leader, whoever he may be."

The attitude of the present Prime Minister in the 1911 election had been "Let well enough alone," said Mr. McKenzie, and he declared that that would not be the attitude of the Liberal party should an election occur. Instead it would be "Clean them out; have a general house-cleaning." He declared that the Borden Government had been elected by the trusts and combines, and that those in the Government had very little to say about what

was done. "It is the duty of the Liberal party to clear the channels of trade of this country of the wreckage and rubbish which has been brought in to those channels by those men and kill this trend of commercial cannibalism that is abroad, and then this land will go back to healthy conditions."

What was most needed in this country was unity. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had striven for that during all his lifetime, and Mr. McKenzie believed that the foundation was laid for this to be brought about in the coming years. "We want no Quebec against Ontario or Ontario against Quebec, or the East against the West or the West against the East. We want a united party for the benefit of this country."

"We have issued a call for a gathering of Liberals to take place in Ottawa on August 5, 6 and 7, and we simply said in that call that every man and every woman who believe in Liberal principles, who believe in the doctrines laid down by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the great Liberal party should come with us. Let nobody think that we are asking you under any cloak of suspicion to come to the convention. We do it from the very bottom of our hearts, and we will welcome the whole body of Liberals who will be there."

In conclusion Mr. McKenzie said he believed the electors would do with the Government at Ottawa what a Captain desired should be done to his mother-in-law—embalm, cremate and bury.

After singing the National Anthem, the convention adjourned at 3.30 p.m., having been in session without any adjournment from 9.45 a.m.

Extracts from Mr. Dewart's Address at Weston, July 11th, 1919

The Referendum Vote

The present form of the referendum is the form upon which the government decided to submit the question to the people. Whether it is the wisest form or not is not now a question. It was accepted by the Liberals without opposition. The question was taken out of the partisan arena in 1916, when the people were not consulted, on the understanding that they should be consulted now. **The issue is one for the people to decide.** It has always been good Liberal policy to trust the people, and I adhere to that policy. Not only have the issues of the referendum vote been taken out of party politics, but they must be kept out. There must be no mixing of the vote upon the referendum with the vote upon a general election in this province. There are

evidences that the government still proposes to make a party football of this question, but this cannot and will not be tolerated.

Liberals and Temperance

The convention in Toronto has determined the policy of the Liberal party upon the question of temperance. This resolution as it was drawn had the approval of Mr. Proudfoot, Major Tolmie, Mr. Elliott and myself, it met with the approval of the representatives of the Women's Liberal Associations, we have all accepted it as the platform of the Liberal party that I have the honor to lead. The will of the majority of the people must and will be the law, and we shall see that the law which the people demand will be effectively and vigorously enforced.

Will Not Be Dragooned

As leader of the Liberal party in this province, I do not intend to be dragooned by either political, journalistic or clerical dictation, or drawn aside from the clear-cut Liberal principle that issues which are submitted to the people must be decided by the people, and that on the questions of general policy the people must independently judge and decide between us and our opponents. To the people of this province we confidently appeal.

Conserve Our Resources

The failure of both Dominion and provincial governments to conserve our great nickel resources—the fact that the whole refining of so vital a production, of which the world's supply was controlled in the province of Ontario, has been allowed to pass into a foreign country—the fact that the business of handling our Ontario nickel had been allowed to be transferred to the great German metal trust—the fact that enormous supplies of this most vital war material had been shipped to Germany without let and hindrance and that Sudbury nickel was at that very time being shipped by the submarine Deutschland from the United States to Germany, the failure of both provincial and Dominion governments to realize their duties and take any effective preventive measures—these were matters of burning interest and critical importance at that time, as now, to the people of Canada, and this province, nor was the fact that the provincial premier, Mr. Hearst, as minister of lands, forests and mines, had entered into an illegal agreement whereby the Canadian Copper Company, the representative of nickel in Ontario, was escaping taxation upon its product under an illegal five-year agreement limiting the taxation to \$40,000 a year—a matter devoid of interest to the people of Ontario.

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